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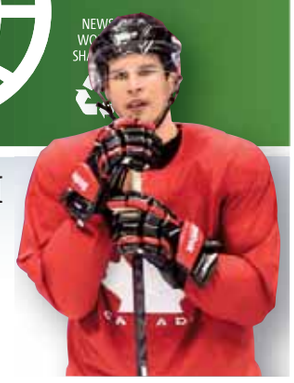

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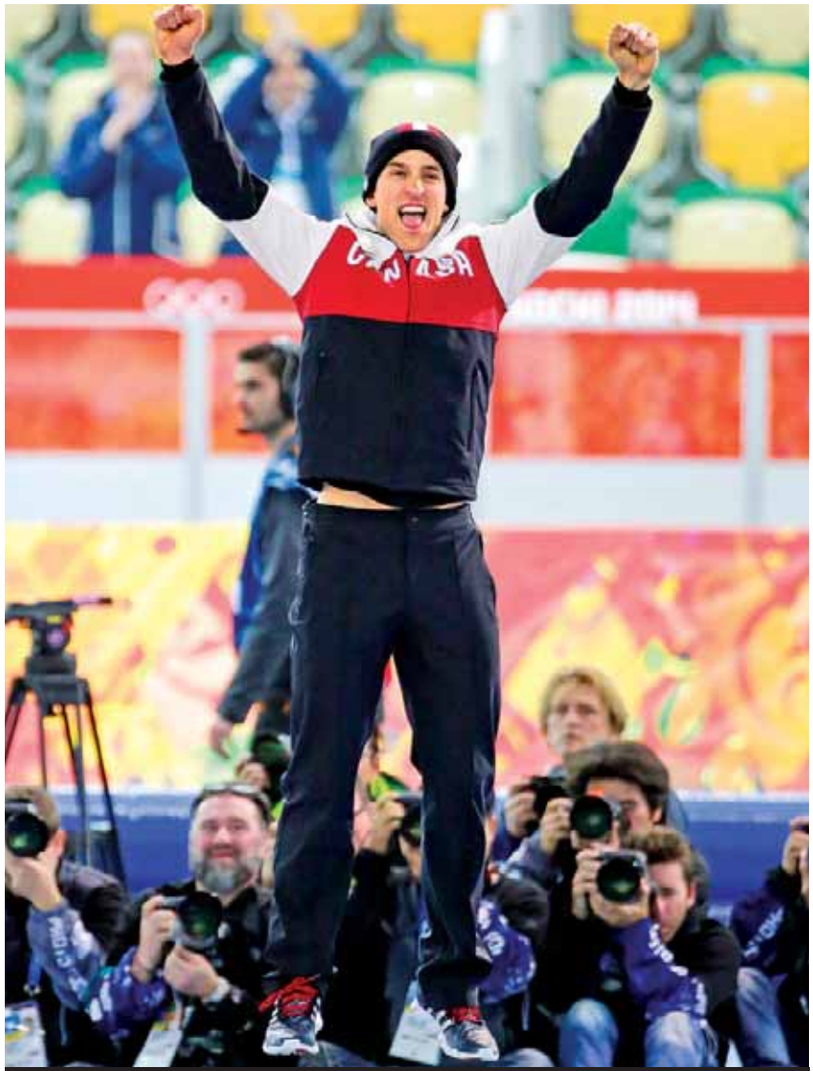

## JUMPING FOR JOY

**Silver medallist Canada's Denny Morrison jumps in celebration during the flower ceremony for the men's 1,000-metre speedskating race at the Adler Arena Skating Center during the Winter Olympics in Sochi on Wednesday. For more, see page 25.** DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Province 'ripe' for brothels, mogul says

**Prostitution dilemma.** City to mull options in light of Supreme Court ruling

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Bunnies of a different variety could soon bound over the border in hopes of cashing in on Alberta's "very ripe" prostitution market, says a U.S. brothel mogul.

Dennis Hof, owner of the seven-brothel Moonlite Bunny Ranch chain in Nevada, said he's been watching developments very carefully in the wake of a Supreme Court decision deeming Canada's prostitution laws unconstitutional.

Hof has no problem ranking the Canadian locales he would hope to have his ladies work in. Number one is Vancouver because "I love the city." Next up are population-dense cities Toronto and Montreal followed by Calgary and Edmonton. Hof said he also hasn't ruled out Halifax, given that it has a seaport and potentially plenty of sea-weary sailors.

**Dennis Hof, owner of the Moonlite Bunny Ranch chain.** CONTRIBUTED

"I know the demand is there," he said of Alberta in an interview Wednesday. "Don't look at it like I'm the controversial cathouse guy that's coming in there to bring prostitution to Canada — you've already got it. I'm just going to tell you how to do it properly and with dignity."

Hof's comments came one day after Calgary city council voted in favour of establishing a "working group" to study potential scenarios that would come as a result of the Supreme Court decision — the federal government has until December to amend its prostitution laws.

His pitch was not completely far-fetched to Louise Crane, former co-ordinator of the Calgary Network on Prostitution and a support worker of more than 20 years. Crane said she could see the brothel approach working in Alberta, providing the actual prostitutes ran the business as equal partners and adhered to strict regulations.

"I think there's a place for prostitutes in society and I really believe it should be safe for them to run their own business and make their own decisions," she said.

But Crane also conceded that she wouldn't exactly jump at the notion of brothels opening near her home.

"I like the bunny ranch idea because it's out of town," she said. "From my point of view as a grandmother, I wouldn't want one opening in my neighbourhood."

City council's approved working group on prostitution is due to report back in June.

Follow Jeremy Nolais on Twitter @Metro_Nolais

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## Casinos. Blackjack until 3 a.m.? Alta: Hit me

Blackjack and other table games will be allowed to operate until 3 a.m. at Alberta casinos starting April 1, one hour longer than they can now.

The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) announced the changes this week, which would bring the hours for table games in line with the same, 17-hour window allowed for electronic gaming machines.

"A number of casino operators had expressed interest to have the hours of casino table games to be identical to those of casino slot machines," AGLC spokesperson Dan Huang said. "So that was part of the rationale."

It will be up to individual casinos to determine if they want to extend their table-game hours, Huang added.

He said the AGLC consulted with casino operators as well as 400 charities and religious organizations last year before making the change.

Dr. Garry Smith, a researcher with the Alberta Gambling Research Institute, suggested a broader consultation would have been more appropriate.

"They really didn't consult anyone but people who would benefit from it," he said. "That's all right, but normally you would consult, maybe, the general public."

Smith said the availability of gambling has exploded in Alberta in the last 20 years.

"Calgary and Edmonton both have seven casinos," he said. "Toronto has none. New York City has none."

Separate poker rooms in Alberta casinos already operate 24 hours a day, while the rest of the casino is closed.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Keep your eyes on the road and your hands upon the wheel, Calgary police say. Distracted driving was reportedly at play in roughly two per cent of crashes last year. METRO FILE

# Still driving distracted

## Risky road behaviour. Distracted-driving tickets jump 10% in 2013: Calgary police

BRYAN WEISMILLER
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Calgarians continued to flout distracted driving laws in 2013 with cops ticketing nearly 10 per cent more suspects than in the previous year.

Last year, 7,191 distracted-driving summons were issued — up from 6,558 the previous year, according to new data.

Traffic section Insp. Ken Thrower said the figure is "really indicative" of the number of offenders, adding his department would prefer not to hand out fines.

"If no one's distracted driving then we're not writing tickets," Thrower told Metro.

Distracted driving was reported at play in 838 crashes in 2013, or roughly two per cent of the total number of collisions.

Cellphone use remains the leading offence cited in police reports, as well as grooming and reading and writing behind the wheel. Thrower suggested people are too overconfident in their multi-tasking skills.

"Texting is a huge problem," he said. "I don't care if you're Mario Andretti — if you're driving while looking at your smartphone you're putting people's lives in danger."

It's the first time a full year-over-year comparison can be done since the provincial government introduced the controversial traffic law in September 2011.

Authorities have warned risky road behaviour has crescendoed since then and some, including police Chief Rick Hanson, say the $172 fine isn't stiff enough.

Reached Wednesday, a spokesperson for the transportation minister noted tickets and convictions were up provincewide, but she suggested more evidence is needed before her boss ups the ante.

"At this point he's not prepared to look at introducing demerits," Christine Way said. "If there's evidence in the next year or so that the rates aren't going down and people aren't getting the message then he'd be willing to consider stiffer fines as a first step."

**Not getting the message?**

- About 1,000 motorists got police-issued fines in the first three months after the provincial traffic law was put in place.
- In B.C., the number of distracted-diving tickets has climbed every year since legislation was enacted in 2010.
- Three-quarters of 1,000 Albertans surveyed supported adding two demerit points to the existing distracted-driving law, in a recent poll done by the Alberta Motor Association.

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## Latest figures. Calgary airport sees record traffic

Calgary International Airport was visited by more people than ever before in 2013. METRO FILE

Passengers jetted in and out of Calgary in record numbers last year and airport officials have eyes on greater growth in the years ahead.

In all, 14.3 million passengers passed through Calgary International Airport in 2013, a near-five per cent increase over the year prior. There was also a 2.1 per cent jump in cargo tonnage, officially making the hub the fastest growing of its kind in Canada, according to spokesperson Jody Moseley.

"It's incredibly busy here and it's probably the most important economic hub for the city," she said Wednesday after the airport released its latest traffic figures. "A healthy airport is really reflective of a healthy city."

Moseley said more growth is expected this year, as new direct routes will launch to far-away destinations like Frankfurt, London and Tokyo.

Officials also reported that, despite "challenging winter conditions," plans remained on track for a $2-billion expansion project that will see a new runway opened later this year and the ribbon cut on an international terminal in 2015.

Moseley said typical projections forecast a three to four per cent growth in airport traffic annually, but added Calgary International tends to top those expectations.

"It's really just reflective of the province and the city and how well business is doing here," Moseley said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

## Bachelor's. Mount Royal launches 2 new degrees

Mount Royal University officials say a few hundred more students will now be able to stay on the Calgary campus to earn a full-fledged bachelor's degree thanks to the launch of two new programs.

The bachelor of child studies and bachelor of health and physical education began accepting students for the fall semester Wednesday and the plan is for the first classes to be held this fall.

The child-studies offering, billed as the first of its kind in Western Canada, will replace two diploma offerings and an applied degree and take in 115 students in 2014-15.

The health program will accommodate 180 students and replace a bachelor-degree transfer program focused around physical education, as well as applied degrees in eco-tourism and outdoor leadership and business entrepreneurship in sports and recreation.

Chad London, dean of Mount Royal's health and community studies faculty, said the change helps address a growing desire among employers for candidates with bachelor's degrees. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Wildrose leader Danielle Smith announces a new infrastructure funding plan for Alberta municipalities in Calgary Wednesday, while municipal affairs critic Jeff Wilson looks on. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

# Give cities 10% cut for infrastructure: Wildrose

**Extra cash.** Proposed funding scheme eliminates need for tax hikes, says Smith

Alberta's opposition Wildrose party is proposing a new funding formula that it says would allow cities and towns to better meet their own infrastructure needs without getting into the messy business of new taxation powers for municipalities.

Calling it the "10/10 Community Infrastructure Transfer," Wildrose Leader Danielle Smith said Wednesday the system would see 10 per cent of provincial tax revenue and 10 per cent of budget surpluses go to municipalities.

**By the numbers**

**$1.97B**

The amount of money Wildrose says its plan would send to Alberta municipalities for infrastructure in 2015-16, compared to $1.49 billion under the existing provincial granting system.

"Cities like Calgary, cities like Edmonton will get the funding levels that they need without having to raise taxes on Alberta families," Smith said, adding that no municipality would see a drop in funding.

Wildrose didn't reveal exactly where the additional money would come from. Smith said that would be forthcoming as part of broader budget recommendations in "a couple of weeks.

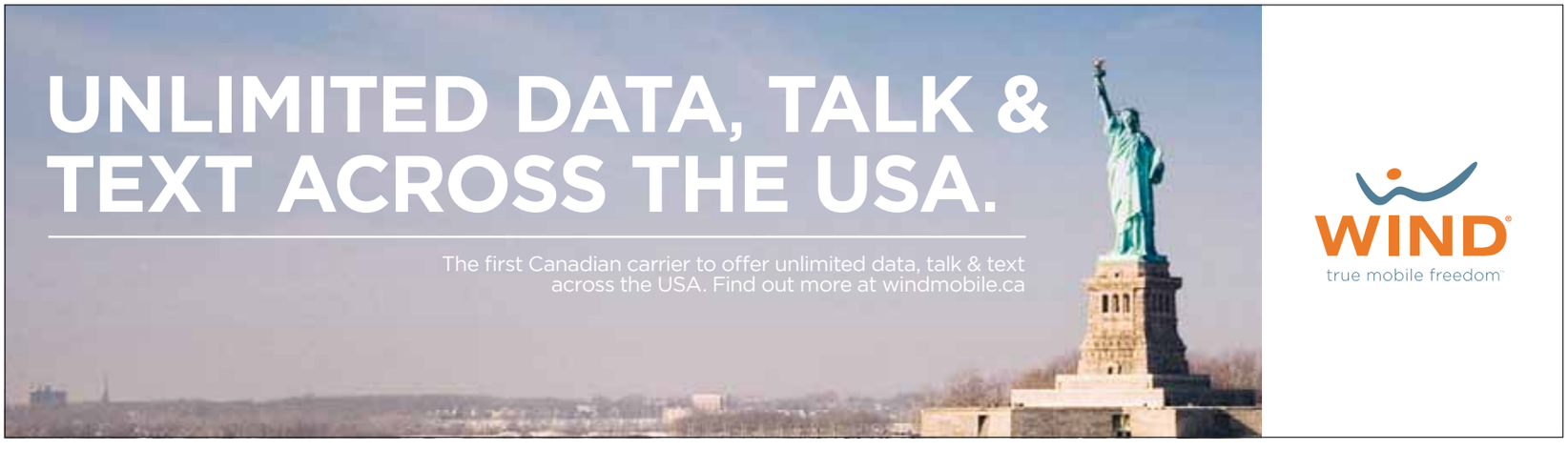
Mayor Naheed Nenshi said Wednesday the plan is almost identical to a proposal Wildrose put forward prior to the last provincial election, but he's glad to see it raised again.

"As I said back in 2012, I really welcome the idea of thinking about permanent, stable sources of funding to cities for infrastructure," Nenshi said.

Municipal Affairs Minister Ken Hughes responded to the Wildrose plan with a written statement.

"The Opposition talk on the one hand about balancing the budget and on the other hand about increasing funding to municipalities," he said in the statement. "Albertans are right to ask which roads, schools, hospitals or other projects they would cut to meet these municipal funding commitments."

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO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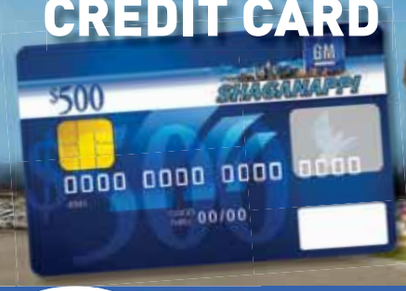


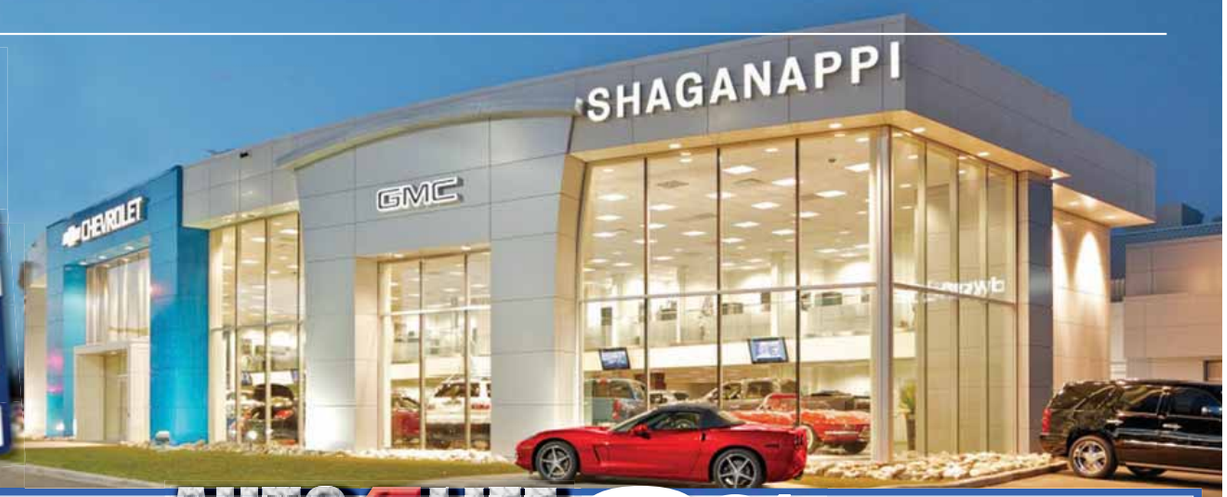


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# Beltline sex attack.
## Police looking for driver of a silver PT Cruiser

Police investigators are searching for a suspect who they say sexually assaulted and beat a woman and left her behind an alley Wednesday.

Calgary police say the victim was near the intersection of 14 Street and 15 Avenue SW when she was invited into a silver, newer-model PT Cruiser about 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

The woman was then taken somewhere in Sunalta where the attack happened, according to a news release.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

**Tips?**

**Police are asking anyone with information to call 403-266-1234.**

- The suspect is described as white, in his early-to-mid 30s, approximately 6-feet tall, with a slim build. He was clean-shaven with short, dirty-blond hair and a distinct Adam's apple.

**High River**

### Temp 'hood won't be closing soon

The cabinet minister in charge of rebuilding the community hardest hit by last year's flooding in Alberta says a temporary neighbourhood currently housing as many as 500 evacuees won't be closing any time soon.

In a letter to residents this week, the Alberta Municipal Affairs Department said it has extended its current arrangement to keep the Saddlebrook complex just outside High River open beyond March while homes in the town are torn down and rebuilt. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Calgary student develops slim golf yardage gadget

Derek Rucki wears a TLink prototype, which he and business partner Stefan Radeta plan to bring to market this summer. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

## Not just any watch.
Lightweight Bluetooth gadget pairs with smartphones to display GPS data

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

As a former top-10 junior golfer in Canada, Derek Rucki knows the importance of being accurate at distances and comfortable with gear.

Those needs led the now 20-year-old student in Mount Royal University's Innovation and Entrepreneurship program to come up with a sleek prototype for a device that gives golfers yardage information but carries just a fraction of the weight of existing GPS watches.

"People love that you can just look at your wrist and have your yardage, quick and simple," he said. "But I tried a few on … and it's a huge distraction when you take your swing and you have this big watch digging into your wrist."

That led Rucki and his 21-year-old business partner Stefan Radeta to come up with a bluetooth-enabled device that takes advantage of the GPS in a smartphone to keep its weight down to 15 grams or less.

The pair is aiming to bring the patented devices to market by June at $99 — also significantly less than most GPS watches — starting online.

Check out GolfTLink.com for more information.

**Smooth backswing**

**"The edges are rounded so … it doesn't pinch you like the watches do with their rigid design."**
Derek Rucki

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Canadian long-track speedskater Gilmore Junio is seen in Calgary in November. LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Olympic sacrifice 'exceptional'

**Calgary coach weighs in.** Gilmore Junio gave 1,000-metre race spot to teammate

**Top-10 finish**

**Glimore Junio had already earned a top-10 finish in the 500-metre race at Sochi, his best event.**

It was an Olympic-sized sacrifice, one that some are quick to suggest was more meaningful than standing on a podium or the colour of a medal earned.

But to those at the University of Calgary who know Canadian long-track speed skater Gilmore Junio best, his decision to surrender a spot in the 1,000-metre competition to a more veteran teammate wasn't surprising at all.

"That's Gil," remarked former coach Alan McIlveen, who develops short-trackers on the local Olympic Oval ice. "He's an unbelievable teammate and he's got a really big heart."

Junio's teammate, veteran glider Denny Morrison, clipped a skate and crashed at the Canadian trials for the 1,000-metre in December. He hit the ice hard, just 50 metres from the finish.

As a result, the two-time team-pursuit medallist was left as a Team Canada alternate in the event.

But the Sochi Games are to be Morrison's last and the 1,000-metre event was believed to be his best hope for a long-coveted individual medal, so Junio volunteered to give up his spot to the veteran skater.

On Wednesday, Junio's sacrifice and Morrison's determination paid off in the form of a silver medal.

McIlveen watched the whole thing in the wee hours from Calgary.

"Honestly, my emotions are too all over the map to really describe," he said. "It's an exceptional thing to see."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

**Population control**

## Premier defends wild (horse) plan

Alberta's premier is defending the government's decision to cull its wild horse population.

Alison Redford says she understands that some people are opposed to the plan. But she says the horses are feral animals that impact pasture land.

She says the government had to make the best decision for land management and resources.

Alberta Environment has issued a licence to capture up to 200 feral horses in the central Alberta area around Sundre.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Calgary United Way. 2014 co-chairs named

Broadcaster Dave Kelly and Enmax CEO Gianna Manes will head up the United Way of Calgary and Area's 2014 fundraising campaign, the charitable organization announced Wednesday.

The pair takes over after a record campaign in 2013, in which $55.7 million was raised to support hundreds of local agencies and programs that address the root causes of social issues in the city and surrounding area.

"We're thrilled to have Dave and Gianna on board to build on last year's momentum," United Way CEO Lucy Miller said in a release. "They will lead Calgarians in fighting poverty, helping kids thrive, and building stronger neighbourhoods in 2014." METRO

Dave Kelly and Gianna Manes
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## Edmonton. Backpack offers grieving mother answers in son's suicide

Jan Thorpe finally has some answers about her son's death.

Jonathan Langille's backpack was returned to his mother Tuesday, less than a week after the 19-year-old was killed after stepping off the platform in front of an LRT train at Coliseum Station in Edmonton.

Following the accident, Thorpe made a public plea for help finding the backpack, which had been picked up by a bystander who watched as Langille took his own life.

"The girl who took it called us last night," said Thorpe. "She was very sorry about what happened."

In the backpack, Thorpe said, Langille left his journal, which included information about why he took his own life.

"He said he was overwhelmed," she said.

Thorpe said the family doesn't plan on pressing charges against the woman, who told Thorpe she was using drugs at the time she took the backpack. Thorpe said she hopes the young woman is able to get some help.

Jonathan Langille FACEBOOK

"Life is very short; never take anyone for granted," Thorpe said. "Jonathan showed no signs. If you feel like you are in a dark place, talk to somebody."

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO IN EDMONTON

# Income splitting exposes rift among Conservatives

**Tensions.** Powerful Tory ministers make contradictory statements on Harper campaign promise — but who spoke out of turn?

Two of the most powerful men in the Conservative cabinet have openly contradicted one another on a key campaign promise — a split that speaks to the different ideologies and allegiances in the Tory caucus.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty started the ball rolling Wednesday by candidly questioning the wisdom of expanding income splitting for Canadian families.

During the 2011 election, Prime Minister Stephen Harper promised to bring in the measure once the federal books were balanced. Allowing couples with children to split their income would mean parents could pool their income together in order to qualify for a lower tax bracket.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty gestures during question period in the House of Commons in Ottawa on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I would pay down public debt and reduce taxes more, myself, but I am only one person," Flaherty said in a post-budget interview before the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce.

But Employment Minister Jason Kenney insisted the campaign promise would be kept, a sentiment echoed by Treasury Board President Tony Clement.

"We made a platform commitment to introduce income splitting when we get to a balanced budget; we'll get to a balanced budget next year, that's very clear," Kenney said.

So who spoke out of turn? Flaherty or Kenney?

One senior Conservative suggested Harper actually has his own reservations about income splitting. The Tory suggested social conservatives within the party would be more in favour of such a plan because it appeals to traditional families where only one parent works.

Other Conservatives speculated that Flaherty is feeling free to speak his mind because he has one foot out the door.

There have been tensions between Flaherty and Kenney recently over Toronto Mayor Rob Ford. Flaherty is a friend of Ford's, and reacted angrily when Kenney called on Ford to step down.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Terror case. Reliability of audio surveillance transcript questioned

A lawyer for accused terrorist Khurram Syed Sher pressed a police detective Wednesday on the reliability of a transcript of a key meeting between Sher and two alleged co-conspirators.

In Ontario Superior Court, defence lawyer Michael Edelson peppered Det. Mireille Clement with questions about how she prepared the transcription from secret audio surveillance of a discussion at an Ottawa home.

During the July 20, 2010, meeting, Sher seems to express a desire to arrange overseas tactical training through a Pakistani man who claimed to be with the Taliban.

Clement was part of an Integrated National Security Enforcement Team that conducted extensive surveillance of the purported plotters.

The Crown says the homegrown group was dedicated to supporting violent jihad by whatever means possible.

Federal lawyer Jason Wakely said during opening arguments this week that the three men agreed to raise money, send cash abroad, take paramilitary training, make and use explosives, and scout targets in Canada.

Sher, 31, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of conspiring to facilitate terrorism.

After studying in Montreal, he worked as an anatomical pathologist at St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital in St. Thomas, Ont., south of London.

The RCMP was informed of the case in September 2009 through a formal disclosure letter from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

A publication ban on certain aspects of the file limits what can be reported during the trial.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Who's the boss?**

**The Crown played six segments of audio culled from surveillance of the 2010 meeting.**

- At one point, the three men on the recording discuss the best means of choosing a group leader, suggesting they pick a name from a hat or even spin a bottle.

**Rail safety**

### Industry group calls for greater safeguards

It's only been a few weeks since Canadian policymakers announced safety changes to rail cars, but elements within the industry already want to go further.

A U.S. industry association is recommending all new oil-carrying trains be equipped with a puncture-proof metal shell, taller shields and thermal insulation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Recommendation**

### Police should 'stop shouting' at the mentally ill

In encounters with the emotionally disturbed, police should focus on defusing situations through communication, a coroner's jury said Wednesday.

"If the (person) has failed to respond to standard initial police commands … train officers to stop shouting those commands and attempt different defusing communication strategies," the jury recommended.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Intimidation

## Russian activist gets three years

An activist who shed the light on the environmental impact of Olympic construction in Sochi was ordered Wednesday to serve three years in prison for spray-painting a fence.

A court in the regional capital of Krasnodar converted the suspended sentence given to Yevgeny Vitishko in 2012 into a prison term, according to his lawyer, Alexander Popkov.

Vitishko and another activist, Suren Gazaryan, were found guilty in 2012 of "deliberate destruction of property" for spray-painting the fence of what they said was a local governor's property in a national forest where construction is forbidden.

Human Rights Watch called on the International Olympic Committee to urge Russian authorities to free the activist. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nigeria

## Extremists attack northeast town

Hundreds of Islamic extremists posing as soldiers attacked a northeast Nigerian town for hours, killing 39 people and razing a mosque and more than 1,000 homes, survivors said Wednesday.

In the ruins of the burned-out mosque, bodies covered in cloth lay ready for burial Wednesday, including three small shrouds covering children who did not look more than 10 years old.

"Why us? Why us?" one woman wailed, trying to understand why militants set on creating an Islamic state in Nigeria would attack a town of mainly Muslim farmers.

Numerous villages in the area have been attacked and hundreds have been killed in recent months.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Georgia tells Games fans to keep out of Abkhazia

**Breakaway territory.** The region remains a sticking point between the country and Russia

Georgia on Wednesday called on foreign visitors to the Winter Olympics to stay out of Abkhazia, a Russia-aligned breakaway territory just south of Sochi along the Black Sea coast.

The International Olympic Committee, however, said there was no reason not to go to Abkhazia.

Abkhazia declared independence shortly after Russian forces crushed the Georgian army in a brief 2008 war, but most of the world still considers it Georgian territory. Only Russia, Venezuela, Nicaragua and two Pacific island nations have recognized Abkhazia as an independent country.

Russia's attempts to facilitate travel across its border with Abkhazia, only five kilometres (three miles) south of Olympic venues, was "a provocation aimed at undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia" and "misleading foreign citizens," the Georgian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Talks

**Russian President Vladimir Putin said Monday that he hoped the Games would help to mend fences and expressed a willingness to meet with his Georgian counterpart.**

- The Georgian government responded positively.

## Child euthanasia debate

Belgian politicians assemble at the federal parliament in Brussels, Wednesday. Belgium, one of the very few countries where euthanasia is legal, is expected to take the unprecedented step this week of abolishing age restrictions on who can ask to be put to death, extending the right to children. GEERT VANDEN WIJNGAERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Privatization failures spark unrest in Bosnia

**Sarajevo is burning.** Collapse of more than 80% of privatized companies has ignited widespread anger

A Bosnian protester helps start a fire at a local government building during protests in the town of Tuzla last week. AMEL EMRIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The recent violence in Bosnia, with scenes of burning government buildings and protesters pelting police with stones, has many root causes. One of them is the failed privatizations of state-owned companies.

When Bosnia abandoned communism about two decades ago, officials devised a plan that wouldn't mean mass layoffs for state workers. It was supposed to be a smooth transition after the 1992-1995 war that left 100,000 dead and devastated the country's infrastructure.

But it has been a disaster for people like Munevera Drugovac, a 58-year-old widow, who works for a company that was bought by a businessman in 2004. She hasn't been paid in 19 months.

"Back then, I didn't have electricity and heating because of the war," she said. "Now, I don't have it because of unpaid bills."

More than 80 per cent of privatizations have failed, becoming a core reason behind Bosnia's worst unrest since the end of the war. Many well-connected tycoons have swept into these companies, stripping them of their assets, declaring bankruptcy and leaving thousands without jobs or with minimal pay.

After the breakup of socialist Yugoslavia, Bosnians knew little about capitalism and relied on Westerners for advice. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## That's a lot of dough. Canada Bread sold to Mexican firm for $1.83B

Canada Bread has struck an agreement to be acquired by one of the world's largest bread companies in a transaction valued at $1.83 billion.

Grupo Bimbo, based in Mexico, said Wednesday it will buy Canada's dominant breadmaker with the support of Maple Leaf Foods, which owns a 90 per cent stake in the operations.

What Grupo Bimbo gains from buying Canada Bread is a position in the Canadian marketplace and the ownership of popular brands like Dempster's and Bon Matin.

"The company fits exactly within our strategic soft spot as a leader in its domestic market," Grupo Bimbo chief executive Daniel Servitje said in a conference call.

"(This is) a new market for Grupo Bimbo which helps strengthen our presence in the Americas and one that had grown steadily and with little volatility in terms of pricing."

The transaction also ends Maple Leaf Foods' pursuit of a buyer for the bakery division, which it announced last October.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Market Minute**

**DOLLAR** 90.93¢ (+0.16¢)

**TSX** 13,900.49 (+19.50)

**OIL** $100.37 US (+$0.43)

**GOLD** $1,295 US (+$5.20)

**Natural gas:** $4.85 US (-$0.09)
**Dow Jones:** 15,963.94 (-30.83)

**Fourth-quarter results**

### Talisman reports unexpected billion-dollar loss

Talisman Energy posted an unexpected $1-billion US net loss in the fourth quarter, reflecting the reduced value of its North Sea operations, which have been a long-running headache for it.

The asset and goodwill impairments totalled $826 million during the quarter, mostly related to its European offshore activities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Energy market**

### Husky crude from White Rose being sold in India

Husky Energy Inc. has tapped into a new booming energy market, selling one million barrels of crude from its White Rose offshore field east of Newfoundland to Indian Oil Corp.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HE SAYS

**John Mazerolle**
metronews.ca

Normally I'd say Valentine's Day is a holiday that should be cut short like its decapitated namesake.

Normally I'd argue it's not a real holiday unless I'm earning time and a half.

Normally I'd suggest that the only reason Valentine's receives any attention at all is that it lands when the weather is barren and any real holidays are far away. It's like a stranger in a bar when the lights come on. Our time with it might be awkward and trashy, but we'll take what we can get.

But I won't say any of that because I have a girlfriend for the first Valentine's this decade. So — just in case she cares — Valentine's is a wonderful, splendiferous day (wheee!) and I can't wait to spend it with her in whatever reasonably priced restaurant she desires.

As a loving tribute to my return to coupledom, I offer this fragrant bouquet of information:

**Valentine's Day By The Numbers:**

**1:** The loneliest number.

**2:** The least lonely number.

**3:** The soon-to-be-lonely-again number.

**4:** The polygam-est number.

**Relationships**

**13,491,617:** Number of Canadians who would laugh in your face if you asked them out right now.

**12:** Happy couples.

**700:** Percentage spike in the crime rate since same-sex couples were allowed to marry and society crumbled.

**1.3:** Median number of children it will take to salvage your crumbling relationship.

**580,000:** Number of times someone will say, "I don't know, what do you wanna do?" on Valentine's Day (average three per couple).

**170:** Number of guys pretending they like Michael Bublé at any given moment.

**5:** Number of days after Valentine's you can wait before dumping your partner, guilt-free.

**0:** Number of unrequited loves thinking about you right now.

**Gifts**

**$356:** Minimum amount your partner will spend on you if they really love you.

**32:** Number of insect larvae legally permitted in the chocolates you're about to receive.

**15:** Number of years until corporations automatically deduct a minimum $100 directly from your chequing account as part of a Mandatory Incidental Love Fee, or MILF.

**8,732:** Number of relationships that will spark with the heat of a thousand suns thanks to the gift of a heart-shaped doughnut.

**60,000:** Approximate number of bees killed annually for Bee Mine? card industry.

**$1.4 billion:** Value of all Valentine's cards purchased in North America.

**1.4 seconds:** Average time spent glancing at card.

**14,541:** Number of Canadians unemployed in the candy, floral and gift card business because of you and your friends' cynical attitudes.

**Fewer than 12:** Number of minutes I spent on research.

ZOOM

# Did Russia get this wrong?

COURTESY GREG WYSHYNSKI/YAHOO SPORTS

## Rings' colours not tied to continents

No, the different-coloured Olympic rings don't correspond to specific continents.

But you'd be forgiven for thinking differently if you're going to or from Sochi's airport.

Five enormous concrete sculptures of the rings welcome visitors, each labelled in bold letters, in Russian and English, with the name of a continent: Africa, Asia, Australia (pictured), Europe, and the Americas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**In actuality...**

- International Olympic Committee spokesman Mark Adams says "the rings are not assigned to each continent."
- When Pierre de Coubertin, considered the founder of the modern Olympics, designed the rings a century ago, he chose black, red, yellow, green and blue because every flag in the world bore at least one of those colours, according to the Olympic Museum.

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

**So maybe those piano or violin lessons in elementary school didn't exactly stick, but surely you remember a scale or two. Test your musical memory, or just have fun making music with these apps that turn your phone into a handheld musical "instrument." Warning: This will annoy pretty much anyone in earshot and you will have way more fun creating "songs" than anyone will have listening to them.**

JOSH SEMANS/FLICKR

### Shaker:

**Turn your phone into a pocket percussion centre. From the triangle to the tambourine to the tam tam, this free iTunes app has the drum section of your band covered.**

### Harmonica:

**Both Apple and Android have their eyes on the handheld harmonica (oh wait, real ones are also handheld), but the Android version lets users get up close with their phones and play with their mouth (option for hands too, if you don't trust where your phone's been).**

### Virtuoso Piano 3:

**Just like riding a bike, once you learn to play Heart and Soul you never forget. Or so no one's ever said. Test the theory and tickle the ivories on your phone.**

Twitter

**@metropicks asked: Canada's men's hockey team plays Norway Thursday. Should fighting be allowed in Olympic hockey?**

**@CALanuza:** Yes, it brings excitement to the game; Remember this guys are pro athletes.. #Sochi2014 #yyc

**@Dweller15:** off course, what kind of question is it? What a hokey without fight?

**@cndneh:** why should fighting be allowed at all?

**@Mr_B_Robertson:** No. The greater the threat of injury to NHL players, the greater the chance the NHL won't let its players go the Olympics.

**@kkjohal769:** NO!!fighting is not necessary send the right message to our young people

**@larrington:** with fighting allowed, world does not take NHL ice hockey seriously as a sport; it's just entertainment.

**@MainStPoodle:** Yes. And growling, chasing and biting.

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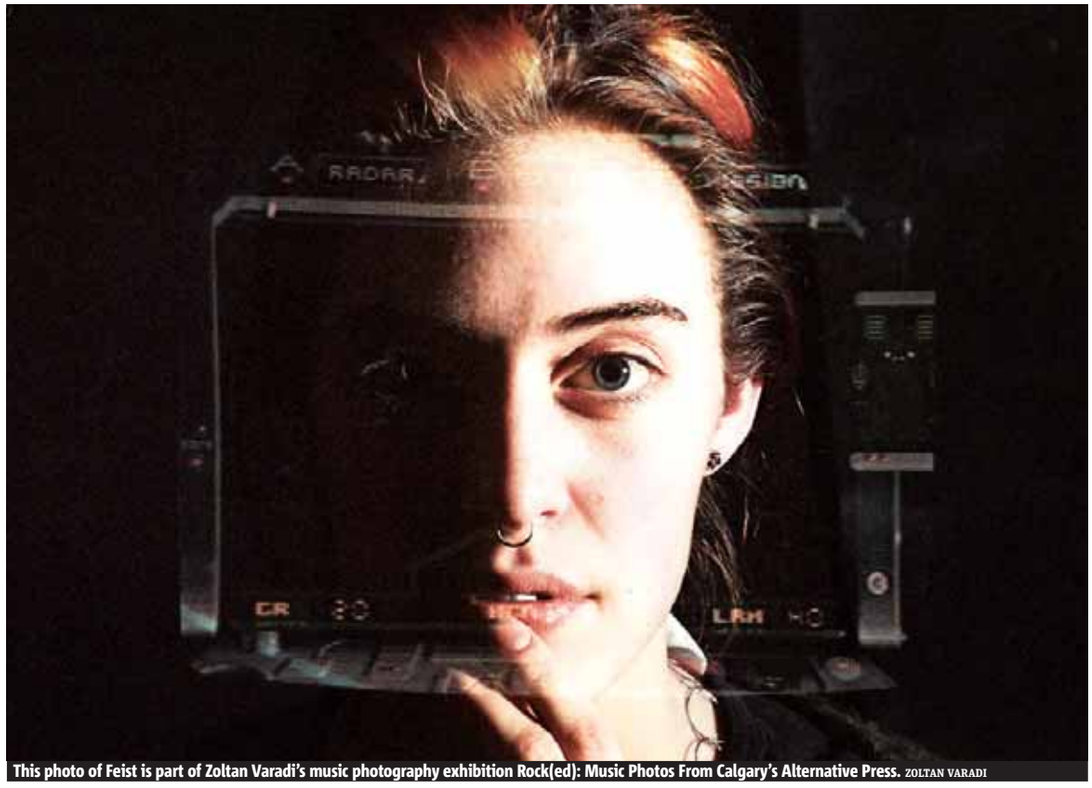
# Shoot me, I'm a rock 'n' roll star

**Exhibit .** Rock(ed): Music Photos from Calgary's Alternative Press will feature a collection of shots from the 20-year career of Zoltan Varadi

BACKSTAGE PASS
Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca



This photo of Feist is part of Zoltan Varadi's music photography exhibition Rock(ed): Music Photos From Calgary's Alternative Press. ZOLTAN VARADI

Zoltan Varadi has taken thousands of photos over a 20-year period. Yet when he was asked to put together an exhibition of more than two dozen of his favourite shots, he was worried he wouldn't have enough to choose from.

"It seemed like I'd kept all of my worst photos and none of my good ones," says Varadi with a laugh. "But I have a couple of boxes of slides and negatives, so I sat down and sorted through those."

The result is Rock(ed): Music Photos From Calgary's Alternative Press, a retrospective of Varadi's musical photography, which opens Thursday night at Art Central downtown as part of the Exposure Calgary Banff Canmore Photography Festival.

Most of the 28 photos featured were taken during the 1990s when he was a regular face at local gigs. Much of his work appeared in the city's alternative papers, including the now-defunct Vox magazine, which shared office space with CJSW 90.9 FM at the University of Calgary.

"I went to the U of C for the communications course and got involved with CJSW and Vox," recalls Varadi, who became photo editor after taking "a few lousy pictures" for the monthly music and arts magazine. Varadi spent almost 10 years in Edmonton and Toronto before settling down in Calgary again in 2011. His various moves meant Varadi had to scale down his photo collection and he admits he doesn't have many printed photos left.

"I had to reprint everything from my negatives and my slides for this show," he explains. "Which was good, because I got to reprint everything properly on really nice paper. It looks pretty sharp."

Among the notable subjects of Varadi's exhibit are a few musicians who became big names in entertainment years later.

Varadi photographed Juno winner and former Calgarian Leslie Feist for one of her first magazine covers, as well as post-hardcore Chicago quartet Trenchmouth, whose drummer, Fred Armisen, ended up on Saturday Night Live and is one of the stars of the popular series Portlandia. What's surprising is Varadi's photos were taken on rather simple manual cameras without a lot of the bells and whistles other photography professionals covet.

"When I'd go shoot shows at the Saddledome, I'd always feel slightly self-conscious because of the professional newspaper photographers who were there with their big lenses and bulky cameras with battery packs and all these gadgets," he says. "I just had this little camera with a little stubby lens on it."

**Details**

- **When and where.** Rock(ed): Music Photos From Calgary's Alternative Press runs until Feb. 28 at Art Central, Suite 107, 100 – 7 Ave. S.W. The opening reception takes place Thursday night at 7 p.m. with a performance by Jackson Phibes.
- **Photo subjects.** The retrospective features live photos and studio shots of such acts as KISS, Sloan, Social Distortion, SNFU and local acts Forbidden Dimension, The Von Zippers and more.

# Dr. John rocks on

**No slowing down.** Iconic songwriter talks to Metro about his tribute to Louis Armstrong and a return to psychedelic blues

Dr. John, now 73, will be releasing a tribute to Louis Armstrong. GETTY IMAGES

A legendary songwriter and eccentric showman, Malcolm John "Mac" Rebennack Jr., is best known to the rest of us as Dr. John. Now 73, he has been making music since the 1950s. His crazy concoctions of blues, jazz, zydeco and possessed voodoo psychedelia extend to more than 30 records.

**So you're already working on a new album?**
Well, it's a tribute to Louis Armstrong. Louis came to me in a dream and said, "Do my stuff your way." And that's what I did. We'll finish it up pretty soon I think.

**The last time we spoke, you had just released your record about Katrina. Now that more time has passed, do you see a new New Orleans?**

Well, in some ways it's like the whole lower Ninth Ward — they haven't done anything. It's been pretty much left to its own devices and that's a shame. ... There were just so many musicians that were from there, you know. I wonder what they'd think to see that whole neighborhood is gone. That's sad to me. But listen, we're gonna make the people warmer when we get there.

**When you recorded Locked Down, did you see it as a return to the psychedelic blues of your early work? How influential was Dan Auerbach?**

Well, actually Dan was thinking of some of the stuff like that. I think he did an excellent job. ... Actually, he is an old-school cat. I mean he's a lot older than his age … and that's a good thing. METRO

In light of the news that Blue Ice Pictures bought the film and TV rights to Robyn Doolittle's Crazy Town: The Rob Ford Story, the Metro editorial team started speculating who should play Toronto's titular titan. Here are our top three picks:

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

## John Goodman

An overwhelming number picked the man best known as Dan Conner. He's got the girth, yes, but he's also proven he can play the wildcard act with aplomb — witness his turn as the 'back in 'Nam' referencing Walter Sobchak in The Big Lebowski. Our resident film expert Richard Crouse wasn't convinced though: "He'd bring the baggage of previous roles to the film."

## Kevin James

There'd be a wicked sense of irony in casting the man who starred in I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry as the Pride Parade-evading Ford. And as Metro's film writer Steve Gow notes, James has the physicality for the role. "No one could physically emulate the bombastic and blundering nature of Rob Ford like the dude who played Paul Blart: Mall Cop."

## Meryl Streep

More than a few Metro folk delved into arthouse territory, selecting an actress to play Ford. There were murmurs of Tilda Swinton, but ultimately the role was awarded to the greatest actress of our time. "Meryl Streep could play anyone," noted copy editor Rita Zhivotovsky. "It will be her greatest challenge yet," said style editor Liz Beddall.

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# Hey girl, Alex Pettyfer just wants to love

**Be mine?** Star of Endless Love claims he's just a big puppy dog when it comes to matters of the heart

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Endless Love, starring Alex Pettyfer, opens on Friday. CONTRIBUTED

Alex Pettyfer is sorry to say he's a hopeless romantic at heart, which actually made signing on for the remake of Endless Love a no-brainer. Of course, we don't necessarily think there's anything wrong with being a softie.

**This seems like a pretty intense film to make, emotionally. How did you approach it?**
Well, the most difficult thing about making this movie was that when you're 23 or 24, which is how old I am, you want to be 30. You want to be looked upon as a man. And I'm playing 18 years of age, and you kind of have to go back to that naïve way of thinking and that childlike energy. That was the hardest thing for me — the most fun, but the hardest.

**I don't remember feeling that naïve and childlike at 18.**
Yeah, we all think we know everything when we're 18.

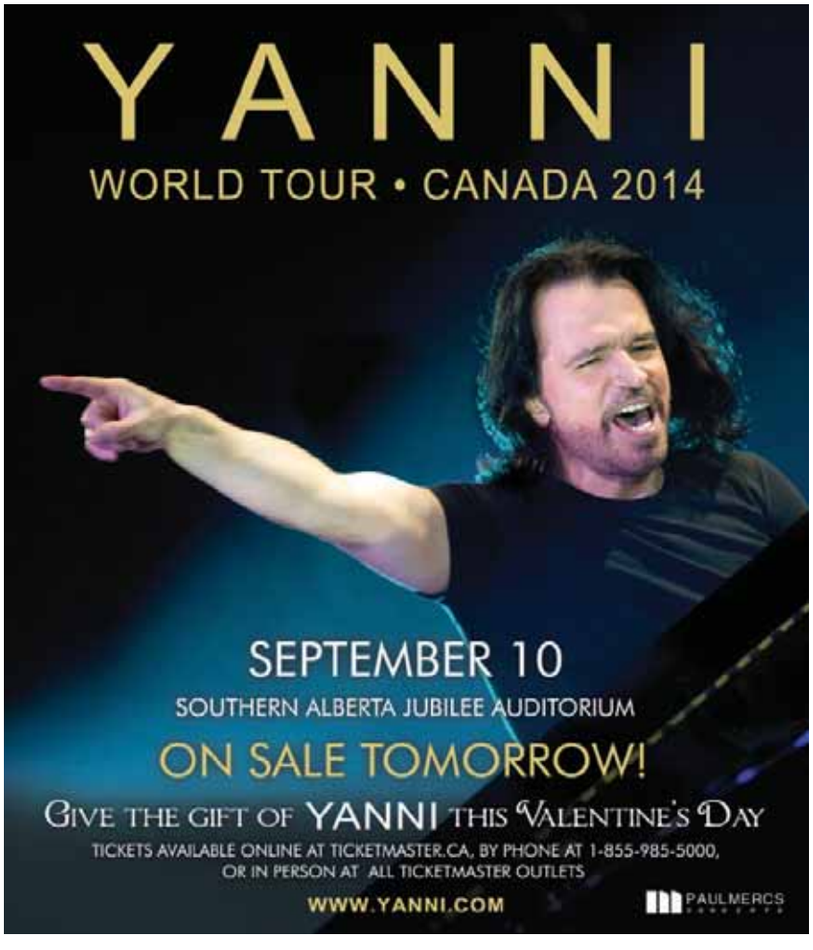
**The more a movie focuses on romance, the more some people will use that as an excuse to ask about your personal life. How do you cope with that?**
I just say no. I'm very blunt. I don't really care. I don't really answer that.

**What's your own personal opinion of romantic films in general?**
I love romantic films. I love Love Actually, I love Bridget Jones. I'm sad in that sense — I'm a sucker for a good rom-com. And I wanted to make one. I'm so lucky that I've been given this opportunity to do a movie like this. I'm a hopeless romantic.

**I don't think that's sad, to say that you like rom-coms.**
Yeah, well… I mean, it's sometimes tough for a man to admit that they're a hopeless romantic.

**I don't know, I feel like I've met quite a few in my time.**
You have? You've met some hopeless romantic men? Well that's good. At least I'm not alone in that.

**Are there any other directors you're just dying to work with?**
I'd love to work (David) Fincher. The way he makes movies I find very interesting, the technique he uses. He does a lot of takes. He believes that the mentality of the actor fades after a certain amount of takes and then rebuilds his consciousness in a different light so that the view on the scene becomes different. So he does, like, 60 or 70 takes.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# Marie Saint talks Winter's Tale, Hitchcock

**Carrying on tradition.** Actress is picky about her roles, and she likes that her latest involves playing a strong female character

MATT PRIGG
Metro World News

In Winter's Tale, Eva Marie Saint plays a character who's more than 100 years old. "Made me feel young," Saint cracks, chuckling heartily. She's not that old, even if she once made out with Cary Grant, as she famously did in Alfred Hitchcock's North by Northwest, from 1959.

The film is a romantic fantasy, adapted from Mark Helprin's 1983 bestseller, that spans a century, with some characters living well past the normal life span (and in the case of Colin Farrell's thief-turned-hero, not aging either).

But Saint likes that her character is, despite her age, a Manhattan newspaper editor. "She's a professional," she says. "I just prefer to do roles where it's a strong lady and she's not ill and she's not in a wheelchair — and that may happen, and there's nothing wrong with that. But as long as I can portray somebody who still makes a difference in the world — that's what I like to do."

It's something she somewhat identifies with, too. Now in her late 80s — friendly but feisty, warm yet sharp about her long career — Saint has been keeping busy, or as much as she'd like to be. Her career is filled with breaks; she only has 20 films to her credit. This is her first on-screen appearance since playing Superman's mom in Superman Returns in 2006.

But she periodically swings by to do voice work on The Legend of Korra, the animated sequel to Avatar: The Last Airbender. That harkens back to her first job in the entertainment business: as a tour guide at NBC studios in New York, where part of her job was demonstrating how sound effects were created. (She even recreates how she mimicked a horse for me.)

No doubt she also likes that the role continues a long tradition of playing smart, independent women. She won her Oscar for playing the strong-willed sister of a slain dockworker in 1954's On the Waterfront. Rather than cash in on her success, she sought the good roles. She returned to play on television, where she had first made her name, racking up a string of Emmy nominations (she won in 1990 for People Like Us).

Even when she wound up as a glamorous undercover spy in North by Northwest, it proved a subtly challenging role. Her character is tasked with going back and forth between trustworthy and not — a femme fatale who ultimately proves the heroine.

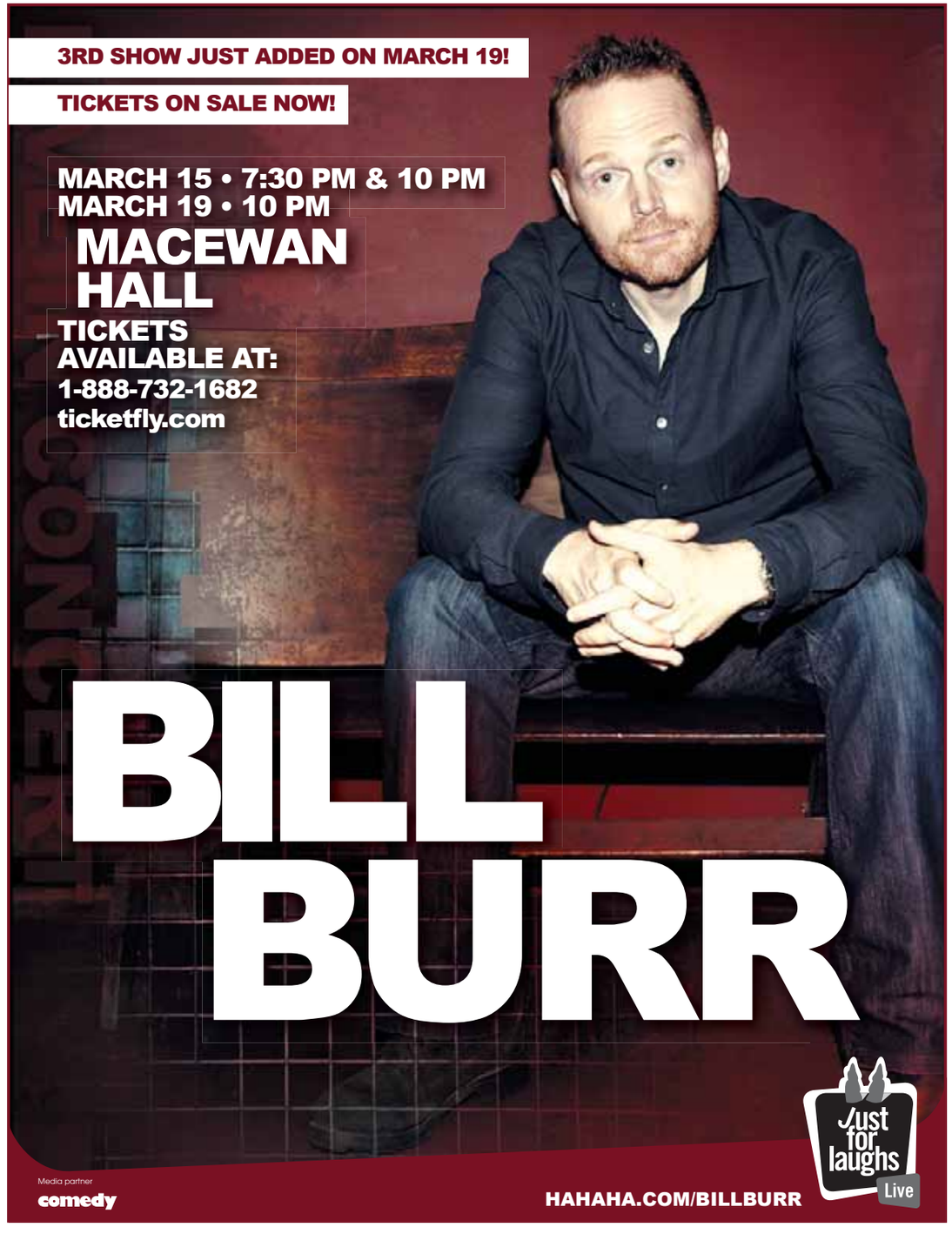
Still, she didn't mind being treated like a movie star. She recalls how Hitchcock didn't like the clothes MGM had picked out for her, so he took her to Bergdorf Goodman, so she could pick whatever outfits she wanted.

"I sat next to him and he had the models come by. Then one walked by with that black dress [she wore in the movie] and said, 'Hitch, I like that!'" She then launches into her Hitchcock impersonation: "He said, 'Wrap it up for Miss Saint.'"

**Quoted**

**"I just prefer to do roles where it's a strong lady and she's not ill and she's not in a wheelchair."**
Actress Eva Marie Saint

Eva Marie Saint GETTY IMAGES



# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Shia LaBeouf ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## LaBeouf, are you really #SORRY or is this piece just a pile of bull-Shia?

Shia LaBeouf is sorry. So sorry, in fact, that he's embarked on a "performance art" piece this week at a Los Angeles gallery space entitled #IAMSORRY. According to the gallery's press release, "Shia LaBeouf is sorry. Sincerely sorry. He will be in situ at 7354 Beverly Blvd. for the duration. Implements will be provided." Visitors are invited, one by one, to enter a curtained-off room where LaBeouf sits at a table in a tuxedo with a paper bag over his head, eye holes cut out. He says nothing, responds to no questions, and then removes the bag to show that he is crying. LaBeouf is scheduled to be staring at visitors and crying through Sunday. Fans of pointing out LaBeouf's penchant for plagiarism have been happy to remark on the similarities between this stunt and Marina Abramovic's 2010 installation piece The Artist is Present, during which she would sit in a gallery and let strangers stare at her one at a time, eventually bursting into tears.

## Lip-synch claims hitting Britney one more time

Britney Spears is being dogged by more lip-syncing accusations after an Instagram video surfaced taken during her current Las Vegas residency that shows her microphone pack fly off her waistband, pulling her earpiece mic away from her mouth without effecting her vocal performance at all. It wouldn't be such a big deal if it weren't for claims made by Spears' team before the launch of the residency. "Britney Spears will be singing live during her show. She will not be 'lip-syncing,'" her rep said.

Britney Spears

The Word

## *Will $75M deal bring sizzle back to celeb cook's career?*

Paula Deen has found a key ingredient to reheating her tarnished brand — a cash infusion worth at least $75 million US from a private investment firm.

The Savannah-based celebrity cook announced Wednesday that she's launched an umbrella company that will oversee her restaurants, cookbooks, product endorsements and other remaining slices of her media empire. The new company, called Paula Deen Ventures, said private-equity firm Najafi Companies is investing $75 million to $100 million to help Deen make a comeback.

Deen's fortunes took a dive last year after comments she made under oath during proceedings in a lawsuit, namely that she had used racial slurs in the past, became public. The Food Network dropped Deen, as did pork producer Smithfield Foods, book publisher Ballantine and several other companies that paid her to endorse their products.

In a statement, Deen praised the partnership with Phoenix-based Najafi and the decision to name Steven Nanula, who has already worked with Deen for the past two years, to serve as CEO of Paula Deen Ventures.

"I know this is the right decision to lead my team, as we continue to share quality products with my fans — whose love and support have built my brands," Deen said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eva Mendes

## Eva X-es out rumours that she's with child after airport opt-out

Eva Mendes knows the consequences of being picky about security. The actress recently opted out of using a walk-in body scanner at the airport, prompting speculation that she's pregnant. "You know those X-ray scanners, which are really creepy? They basically see you naked," she tells Ellen DeGeneres during an interview. "And not only that, but there's a radiation aspect to it. So I always opt out. I always ask for a personal pat-down. That was good enough reason (for people to assume I'm pregnant.)" Sure, but what about those breakup rumours circulating since she and Ryan Gosling haven't been spotted together since October? While Mendes' publicist was already quick to shoot down such reports, Mendes offers some jokey plans for Valentine's Day that pointedly do not include Gosling — at least not in person: "I'm not a big Valentine's Day person," she says. "I'll probably just order a deep dish and watch The Notebook or something. Just cry, weep."

Twitter

**@EllenBarkin**
Do you think I could be the "global ambassador" for Lay's potato chips?

**@ActuallyNPH**
I'm so proud of @RealHughJackman for hosting this year's Tony Awards and for calling me an hour ago to say, 'Suck it!'

**@SarahKSilverman**
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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

# Guess what's coming to Danielle

**Who's that girl?**
Canada's Danielle Knudson only told her family and a handful of close friends that she'd booked the campaign of a lifetime. I Guess everyone else is about to find out.

ELIZABETH BEDDALL
elizabeth.beddall
@metronews.ca

When I meet up with Guess' new it-girl Danielle Knudson, she's surrounded by loose copies of her new ad campaign for the iconic brand. The spread features photos of the blonde bombshell frolicking in the late-afternoon Laguna Beach sunlight.

These images are in stark contrast to the surrounding polar-vortexed environment of our chat, which has left Danielle and I both sweater-bundled as we get warm inside the confines of the Guess boutique in Toronto's Queen West neighbourhood.

But while my pasty face and salt-stained boots give me away as a winter-whipped local, you'd think this new Guess girl, with her sunkissed skin and golden locks, was born and raised along the southern California shoreline. But make no mistake about it, she's Canadian.

**You're now living the model's dream life in New York, but you were born and raised in Alberta. Is there anything you miss about home?**
I loved growing up in Red Deer — I was there right until I was 18. And my family now lives just outside of Banff. Going home, I still love going home to see the mountains. We have a ski hill in Red Deer that no one knows about called Canyon Ski Area, which is kind of hidden in the middle of nowhere. I spent many years growing up there skiing.

Danielle Knudson says her next goal as a model is to be featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated. We'd sign off on that!
HANDOUT

**The story of your rise to fame is an insanely quick one. As I understand you were at a shoot for another client and were asked to take a selfie, which was forwarded to Guess LA. Guess booked you that day, flew you out to LA that night and began shooting with you the next day. Correct?**
Yes, about six months ago I got booked for the look book. Paul Marciano came to the shoot and met me and the agency called me and they put me on hold for everything and the rest is kind of history. It was like boom, boom, boom.

**Tell me a little bit about the day of the Laguna Beach shoot. What was the general itinerary?**
The campaign was actually shot over three days. We woke up very early because the lighting was beautiful in the morning — maybe 5:30. It went by so quickly. We would do hair and makeup and go to location, and shoot so many looks. We'd shoot until the sun went down.

**Paul Marciano was on set with you at this shoot as well. What's he like?**
Paul has been so amazing — he's been so supportive of me. Always told me to be myself. He just made me feel like I'm important to the brand — that they wanted me there.

**Flash forward a year from today. What do you foresee?**
My life is changing very quickly — I'm taking everything in as it's coming my way.

## She's got this in the bag

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# Best sofas to let sleeping dogs lie

"I would always suggest a fabric with a small pattern or texture — a herringbone pattern or small check creates a great disguise."
Designer Jay Jeffers
Designer Jay Jeffers relaxes with one of his two cavalier King Charles spaniels. CAVALIER BY JAY JEFFERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Love your pup but not what he does to your furniture?** Expert tips on buying pieces that can stand up to pets

Sydney Masters' dog Angus has white fur. But he loves to play and dig in the mud, so his paws are often brown. And that was a factor in Masters' choice of sofa.

"We didn't choose the lovely white sofa that I wanted. No! We chose a rich dark brown leather couch," said Masters, who shares a Manhattan apartment and a home in France with her husband, who is French, and with Angus, a West Highland terrier.

Finding furniture that dogs and cats won't ruin is a challenge. Here are some things to think about when you're buying furniture, along with some ideas for protecting it from fur, stains and scratches.

### Leather

Many dog owners report that leather works well as a pooch-proof alternative to fabric. "It's that kind of glossed leather that repels water and dirt," Masters says. But leather might not work for households with cats, who may damage it with their claws, according to the American Humane Association's chief veterinary adviser Dr. Patricia Olson.

### Microfibre

Some cat owners say that microfibre, a synthetic, velvety suede-like material, is a good alternative. It's smoother and less appealing to cats than knits or woven fabric they can sink their claws into. And fur — from dogs or cats — is easily removed from microfibre with a vacuum, lint roller or cloth. Microfibre can also be spot-cleaned.

### Fabric

If you own pets and must have fabric-covered sofas, consider this advice from Jay Jeffers of the Jeffers Design Group in San Francisco: "I would always suggest a fabric with a small pattern or texture — a herringbone pattern or small check creates a great disguise."

And don't be afraid to camouflage your pet's fur. "In our house, the furniture is in similar colours to our pets so their fur blends in," Jeffers said.

Fabric slipcovers with zippers that are easily removed and washed are a plus. Some brands, like Ikea, sell fitted slipcovers for their sofas so they can be replaced easily.

### A couch of their own

A dog-sized sofa as an accent piece. ENCHANTED HOME PET/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

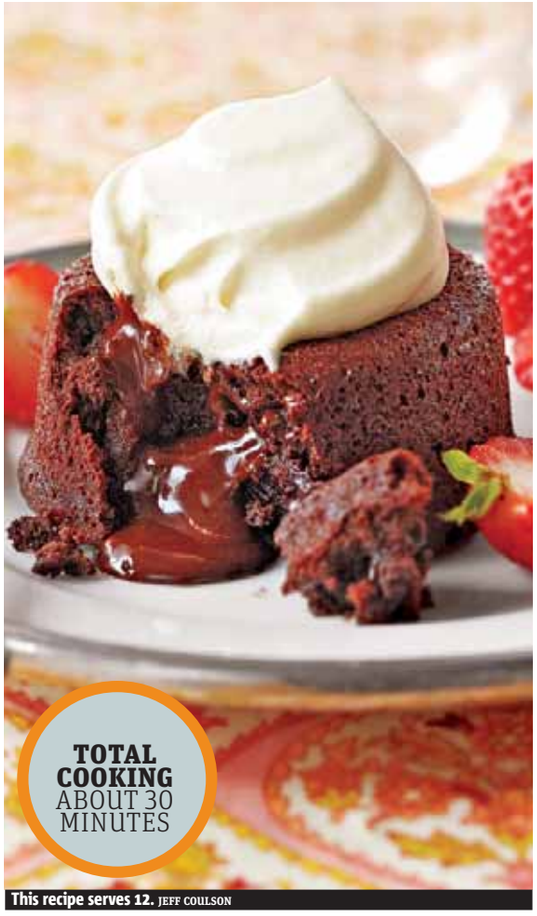
One way to keep pets off your furniture is to give them a couch of their own. Choices abound, from $30 floor pillows at discount pet chains to $1,200-$1,400 US custom B-Home brand dog beds, sold at Jeffers' design store, Cavalier — named for his two cavalier King Charles spaniels. Enchanted Home Pet sells classy dog-size sofas that look a lot like sofas for humans. They run $60 to $300 US depending on size, style and place of purchase; they're available online and in store.

### Covering up

The simplest way to protect furniture from pets is a fitted slipcover or other covering designed to stay put and look neat. Matt Kovacs, owner of an English bulldog, Lulu, has tried a number of covers and recommends the SureFit brand. "Without the covers, furniture doesn't stand a chance."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Fall for a gluten-free delicacy




This recipe serves 12. JEFF COULSON

**Sweet Week.** These Flourless Chocolate Lava Cakes are perfect for any Valentine

**1.** In heatproof bowl over hot (not boiling) water, melt chocolate with butter, stirring until smooth. Stir in vanilla seeds. Remove from heat.

**2.** Whisk in sugar. Whisk in eggs and egg yolks, 1 at a time. Whisk in cocoa powder and salt.

**3.** Pour into twelve 3/4-cup (175 ml) ramekins; place on rimmed baking sheet. (Make-ahead: Cover and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. Bake as directed, adding 5 minutes to baking time.)

**4.** Bake in 425 F (220 C) oven until edges are set and centres are slightly jiggly when lightly tapped, about 15 minutes. Let cool on pan on rack for 3 minutes. Run knife around edges and turn out onto plates. Garnish with strawberries, and whipped cream (if using).

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**Ingredients**

- 12 oz (340 g) bittersweet chocolate or semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 cup butter, cubed
- Seeds of 1 vanilla pod
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 6 eggs
- 6 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder, sifted
- Pinch salt
- 12 oz (340 g) strawberries, hulled and diced
- Whipped cream (optional)

**Cookbook of the Week**

## Bringing the sexy back to chocolate

Few foods are considered as sexy as chocolate. Even its Latin name — Theobroma cacao — means "food of the gods."

The pros in the Canadian Living Test Kitchen have collected their best chocolate recipes in their book The Complete Chocolate Book.

Chapters focus on the varied, wonderful textures of chocolate treats. Craving an ooey-gooey caramel-topped cake? A dark, chewy brownie? A crispy, crunchy cookie? This book has you covered for all that and more.

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# Fall in love with these sweet ideas

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

There are a number of ways you can impress your significant other this Valentine's Day. LUMINAIMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

Fantastic. How exactly did Valentine's Day sneak up on you? If you forgot to plan for Friday, let Deanna Lorraine help you out. This San Diego-based dating coach shares her best ideas for couples of all stages.

**If you have just started dating**

"Surprise her with a big bouquet at her work," Lorraine said. Or amaze your new beau with your gourmet side. "Take them to your place for candles, music and a gourmet meal you've prepared."

**If you have been together a long time**

"Plan a last-minute overnight trip to somewhere within driving distance or a quick flight away," Lorraine said. Have a look at travel websites to score last-minute flight and hotel deals.

Or surprise your partner with your thoughtfulness. "Pick up tickets to a concert or play they're interested in."

**If you are single**

Google can turn up many singles events happening on Valentine's Day.

"Or create a singles event — throw an anti-Valentine's singles party," Lorraine said. "And tell everyone to invite any single person they know."

Or how about taking a trip?

"Plan a trip with a friend who's single — a road trip or getaway for the weekend like New York or Vegas. So something you can look forward to together. Make it an excuse to get out of town and away from all the couples."

**If you are on a budget**

Create couple coupons. "Make a book of coupons to redeem for a massage or a night of me cooking dinner for you," Lorraine said.

Or get scrapbooking. "Make either a physical or online book. There's some great cheap or free software online such as Animoto that you can put together video clips and pictures with music."

**If you have a family**

Do the kids like to celebrate with mom and dad?

"Create a big dinner and have everyone help cook—and also cook something you normally wouldn't," Lorraine said. "Have everyone dress up, too."

But it's important parents get some time together, too, she added.

"So after the kids are in bed, have a secret date in your master bedroom with a decadent dessert."

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# Skater's sacrifice sets up Morrison's silver

**Speedskating.** Gilmore Junio drops out of 1,000 metres to make way for teammate

How about having Gilmore Junio carry the Canadian flag into the closing ceremonies of the Sochi Olympics, says Denny Morrison.

How about having both long-track speedskaters lead Canada into Fisht Stadium?

Morrison, taking the place vacated two days earlier by his friend and teammate Junio, raced to silver in the 1,000 metres between a pair of Dutch skaters Wednesday to write the final chapter to a remarkable story of selflessness and doing the right thing.

"It's a dream, a fairytale story," said an emotional Morrison after earning his third Olympic medal in three Games. "It's difficult to really believe that it's happening."

Said Junio: "I think that's the big power of the Olympics. Anything can happen. Expect the unexpected."

Having come back from a broken leg the year before, Morrison agonizingly clipped a skate on his heel at the Canadian trials in December, falling 50 metres from the finish line and failing to qualify for the 1,000 metres. There was a reskate an hour later at the trials, but his tank was empty and he missed out by four-hundredths of a second.

So the 28-year-old from Fort St. John, B.C., came to Sochi with a place in the 1,500 metres and team pursuit but as a reserve in one of his bread-and-butter distances.

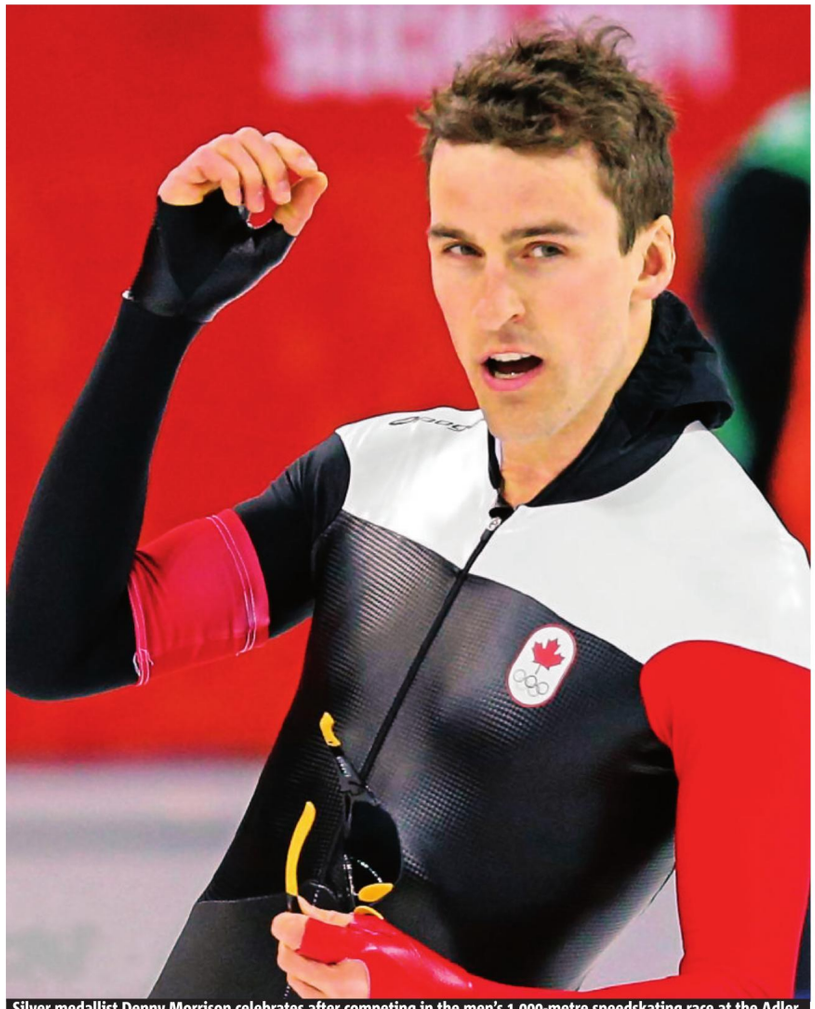
Speed Skating Canada then approached Junio, a 23-year-old from Calgary who was 10th in Monday's 500 metres, and asked whether he would consider giving his place up to the veteran.

"It was 100 per cent my decision. They left it in my court," said Junio, who is better in the 500 than the 1,000. "They said 'You can talk to Denny.'

"But it was an easy decision. The guy's been skating unreal these past few weeks and I wanted to see him skate the 1,000 metres."

Junio also had his own reasons.

"I've a lot to learn in the 1,000 and I think the Olympics, representing Canada, isn't kind of the place to learn such lessons," he said. "We're here to perform. So I thought maybe in four years, hopefully my 500 will be good and my 1,000 will be even better, that I won't have to make this decision. Maybe someone will make it for me." THE CANADIAN PRESS



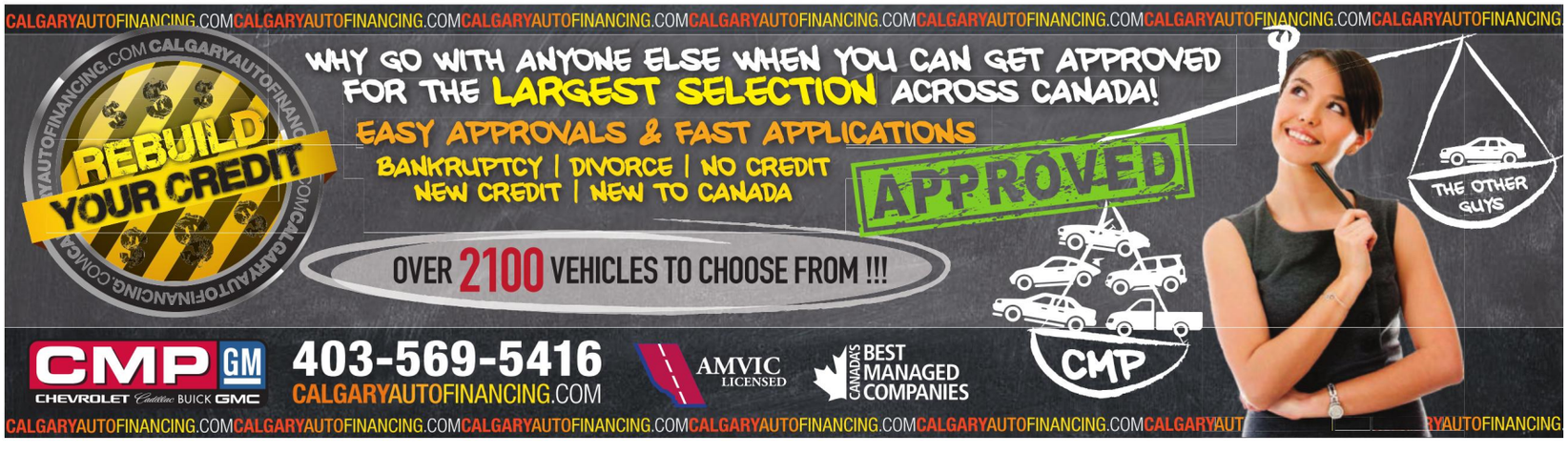
Silver medallist Denny Morrison celebrates after competing in the men's 1,000-metre speedskating race at the Adler Arena Skating Center in Sochi, Wednesday. PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Olympic spirit**

**"Maybe that's something we can get behind, because I think that would be really special.... He does embody what it means to be an Olympian ..."**

**Denny Morrison,** on the push to have Gilmore Junio as the closing ceremonies flag-bearer.

4 SPORTS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Natalie Spooner jumps on top of Meghan Agosta-Marciano of Team Canada after she scored the winning goal in the third period of Wednesday's victory over the United States in Sochi, Russia. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Canada wins first battle against U.S.

## Women's hockey.

Agosta-Marciano's two goals lifts spirits of defending champions

**Preliminary Round**

| Canada | United States |
|---|---|
| 3 | 2 |

A 3-2 win over the archrival United States was a big boost to Canada's confidence, but history shows Wednesday's result won't mean much if the two women's hockey powers face off for Olympic gold.

But after dropping four straight exhibition games to the Americans before their arrival in Sochi, the Canadian women could feel good about themselves heading into a four-day break before Monday's semifinal.

Canada and the U.S. already had berths in Monday's semifinals locked down before their game.

Trailing 1-0 after two periods, Meghan Agosta-Marciano of Ruthven, Ont., scored a pair of goals and had an assist for the defending champions on her 27th birthday.

Linemate Hayley Wickenheiser of Shaunavon, Sask., who was Canada's flag-bearer in the opening ceremonies, scored a controversial goal and assisted on Agosta-Marciano's equalizer.

Charline Labonté of Boisbriand, Que., stopped 25 of 27 shots for the win and stoned Kelli Stack on a short-handed breakaway in the second period. Coach Kevin Dineen's choice to put Labonte in goal was intriguing because Shannon Szabados has started in all world championship finals for Canada since her shutout of the Americans in the 2010 Olympic final.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Figure skating**

## Russians win gold, silver in pairs

Tatiana Volosozhar and Maxim Trankov won the Olympic gold medal in pairs figure skating Wednesday as Russia took the top two spots to reclaim its dominance of the sport.

Ksenia Stolbova and Fedor Klimov had a near-flawless free skate to move up from third after the short program and capture silver.

Kirsten Moore-Towers and Dylan Moscovitch were the top Canadians in fifth place.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## MEDALS

| Nation | G | S | B | Tot. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Norway | 4 | 3 | 5 | 12 |
| **Canada** | **4** | **4** | **2** | **10** |
| Netherlands | 4 | 2 | 4 | 10 |
| United States of America | 3 | 1 | 5 | 9 |
| Russian Federation | 2 | 4 | 3 | 9 |
| Germany | 6 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Austria | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| Switzerland | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Slovenia | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Sweden | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |

## WHAT CANADA DID

### WEDNESDAY

**ALPINE SKIING**

**Women's Downhill-** Larisa Yurkiw, Owen Sound, Ont., 20th, (one minute 43.46 seconds, +1.89 seconds)

**CURLING**

**Women's Round Robin Session 4 -** Canada 9 Britain 6 (Standings: Canada 3-0, T-1st)

**Men's Round Robin Session 5 -** Canada 7 Russia 4 (Standings: Canada 2-2, T-5th)

**FIGURE SKATING**

**Pairs Free Program -** Kirsten Moore-Towers (St. Catharines, Ont.) and Dylan Moscovitch (Toronto), 5th, (131.18); Meagan Duhamel (Lively, Ont.) and Eric Radford (Balmertown, Ont.), 7th, (127.32); Paige Lawrence (Kennedy, Sask.) and Rudi Swiegers (Kipling, Sask.), 14th, (103.01).

**Final Pairs Ranking:** Kirsten Moore-Towers and Dylan Moscovitch, 5th, (202.10); Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford, 7th, (199.53); Paige Lawrence and Rudi Swiegers, 14th, (161.98).

**ICE HOCKEY**

**Women's Preliminary Round - Group A -** Canada 3 United States 2 (Standings: Canada 3-0, 1st)

**LUGE**

**Doubles Run 1 -** Tristan Walker (Cochrane, Alta.) and Justin Snith (Calgary), 4th, (49.857 seconds, +0.484 of a second)

**Doubles Run 2 -** Tristan Walker and Justin Snith, 6th, (49.983 seconds, +0.423 of a second)

**Doubles Final Ranking:** Tristan Walker and Justin Snith, 4th, (one minute 39.840 seconds, +0.907 of a second)

**SNOWBOARD**

**Ladies' Halfpipe Qualification - Heat 1:** x-Alexandra Duckworth, Kingsburg, N.S., 7th, (69.75); **Heat 2:** x-Katie Tsuyuki, Toronto, 9th, (54.25); Mercedes Nicoll, Whistler, B.C., 12th , (43.50).

**x- qualified for semifinals**

**Ladies' Halfpipe Semifinals -** Katie Tsuyuki, 7th, (56.25); Alexandra Duckworth, 11th, (32.50).

**Ladies' Halfpipe Final Ranking:** Katie Tsuyuki, 13th; Alexandra Duckworth, 17th; Mercedes Nicoll, 25th.

**SPEED SKATING**

**Men's 1000m -** Denny Morrison, Fort St. John, B.C., **Silver Medal**, (one minute 8.43 seconds, +0.04 of a second); Vincent De Haitre, Cumberland, Ont., 20th, (1:10.04); William Dutton, Humboldt, Sask., 26th, (1:10.61); Muncef Ouardi, Quebec City, 32nd, (1:11.07).

## HOCKEY

### PRELIMINARY ROUND

**All times Eastern**

**MEN**

**Wednesday's results**

Sweden 4 Czech Republic 2
Switzerland 1 Latvia 0

**Thursday's games**

Finland at Austria, 3 a.m.
Russia at Slovenia, 7:30 a.m.
Slovakia at United States, 7:30 a.m.
**Canada** at Norway, 12 p.m.

**WOMEN**

**Group A**

| | GP | W | OTW | OTL | L | GF | GA | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Canada** | **3** | **3** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **11** | **2** | **9** |
| United States | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 6 |
| Finland | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| Switzerland | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 1 |

**Group B**

| | GP | W | OTW | OTL | L | GF | GA | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sweden | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Russia | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 6 |
| Japan | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Germany | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 0 |

**Note:** Three points awarded for a regulation win, two for an overtime/shootout win and one for an overtime/shootout loss.

**Wednesday's results**

Finland 4 Switzerland 3 (OT)
**Canada** 3 United States 2

**Tuesday's results**

Sweden 4 Germany 0
Russia 2 Japan 1

**Thursday's games**

Japan at Germany, 3 a.m.
Sweden at Russia, 12 p.m.

### CANADA 3, UNITED STATES 2

**First Period** — No Scoring.

**Penalties** — Lamoureux U.S. (tripping) 4:37, Ouellette Cda (holding) 10:59, Decker U.S. (Body Checking Minor) 17:47.

**Second Period**

1. United States, Knight 3 (Carpenter, Schleper) 37:34 (pp).

**Penalties** — Duggan U.S. (interference) 32:27, Johnston Cda (roughing) 32:52, Rougeau Cda (Body Checking Minor) 36:57.

**Third Period**

2. Canada, Agosta-Marciano 2 (Wickenheiser) 42:21 (pp).
3. Canada, Wickenheiser 2 (Spooner, Agosta-Marciano) 43:54.
4. Canada, Agosta-Marciano 3 (unassisted) 54:55.
5. United States, Schleper 1 (Decker, Lamoureux) 58:55.

**Penalties** — Decker U.S. (tripping) 40:53, Pucci U.S. (hooking) 51:59.

**Shots**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Canada | 8 | 11 | 12—31 |
| United States | 11 | 13 | 3—27 |

**Goal** — Canada: Labonte (W); United States: Vetter (L). **Power plays (goal-chances)** — Canada: 1-5; United States: 1-4.

**Attendance** — 4,812 at Sochi, Russia.

## CURLING

**All Times Eastern**

**MEN**

**Wednesday's results**

**Canada 7** Russia 4
United States 9 Denmark 5
Norway 8 Germany 5
China 5 Switzerland 4
China 11 Germany 7
Britain 4 Switzerland 2
Denmark 8 Sweden 5

**Thursday's games**

Switzerland vs. Russia, 5 a.m.
**Canada** vs. Denmark, 5 a.m.
Norway vs. Sweden, 5 a.m.
Britain vs. United States, 5 a.m.

**WOMEN**

**Wednesday's results**

**Canada 9** Britain 6
Japan 8 Russia 4
China 7 United States 4
Sweden 7 South Korea 4

**Thursday's games**

**Canada** vs. Denmark, 12 a.m.
China vs. Britain, 12 a.m.
Switzerland vs. Sweden, 12 a.m.
Sweden vs. Denmark, 10 a.m.
Russia vs. South Korea, 10 a.m.
Switzerland vs. **Canada**, 10 a.m.
Japan vs. United States, 10 a.m.

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- Park Place

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- Lloyd Mall

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- Carry Drive Plaza
- Medicine Hat Mall

PEACE RIVER
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PINCHER CREEK
- Ranchland Mall – Kiosk

RED DEER
- Bower Place Shopping Centre
- Parkland Mall
- Southpointe Common

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Goalies Roberto Luongo, left, and Carey Price take part in Team Canada's practice in Sochi, Russia, on Wednesday. The Canadians will take on Norway on Thursday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Price gets first shot in gold medal defence

**Men's hockey.** Habs goalie to start for Canada vs. Norway; Luongo will get his turn against Austria

Even though Roberto Luongo finished the Olympics four years ago, he won't start Team Canada's run at defending that gold medal.

Coach Mike Babcock chose to split the goaltending duties out of the gate in Sochi so it will be Carey Price facing Norway in Canada's opener on Thursday while Luongo will play Friday against Austria.

Babcock delivered the news to the goaltenders on Wednesday, roughly 36 hours before puck drop of the Norway game. Babcock didn't give a rationale for why he went with this order.

"I was going to play one of them in (each of) the first two games," Babcock said. "If I had put Luongo in, you'd be asking me the same question."

Recent performance certainly seemed to give Price the edge. In his past six NHL games for the Montreal Canadiens, Price is 4-1-1 with two shutouts, a 1.15 goals-against average and .967 save percentage.

Luongo is 1-5-0 with a 3.55 GAA and .880 save percentage in his past six for the Vancouver Canucks. He appeared to accept Babcock's decision.

"We're all here to play for Team Canada, man," Luongo said.

"It's not about one player. We're all pulling the same rope. It's a team game right now. It's not about Roberto Luongo or Carey Price or Mike Smith. It's about being part of Team Canada. It doesn't matter what role you are given, you have to embrace it and accept it."

Price, who will be making his Olympic debut, said all three goalies were all mentally prepared for anyone to start the tournament. That Babcock called on him this time is a career highlight.

"I seem to have had a lot in my young life so far," Price said. "It definitely ranks up there."

It wasn't immediately clear whether Price and Luongo would dress for both games, or if Smith would get a turn. Babcock also didn't reveal if he has decided on a starter for Sunday's game against Finland.

The decision will likely be made based on how well the goalies perform in their first games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Quoted**

**"Like we saw last time around, things change quickly and whoever's playing doesn't matter as long as all three guys, really, are ready to play."**

**Roberto Luongo,** who replaced Martin Brodeur as the starter in 2010

**Sweden beats Czech Rep.**

## *Karlsson tallies twice in opening win*

Erik Karlsson's impressive Olympic debut demonstrated why Sweden has more than enough talent to win it all.

Karlsson scored two goals in his first Olympic game, captain Henrik Zetterberg added a goal and Sweden beat the Czech Republic 4-2 Wednesday night in preliminary-round play in men's hockey.

Patrik Berglund also scored and Henrik Lundqvist made 27 saves as the Swedes opened the Sochi tournament with a display of their formidable offensive depth.

Also on Wednesday, Switzerland defeated Latvia 1-0 by scoring with just 7.9 seconds left in the game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Women's curling. Jones benefits from risky shot played by British skip

A missed gamble by British skip Eve Muirhead allowed Canada's Jennifer Jones to remain unbeaten in women's curling round-robin play at the Sochi Olympics.

With the clock running down and her team behind 8-6 to Canada at the women's Olympic tournament, Muirhead could have played an easy draw to the button with her last stone to take a tense game to an extra end at 8-8.

Instead, she gambled on removing three tightly bunched Canadian rocks to pick up three points for the win. The move backfired, and Canada clinched a 9-6 victory to stay unbeaten in three round-robin games.

"It was a gamble but ... that's the skip," Muirhead said. "They get the glory when they make them or the slack if they miss them."

Jennifer Jones calls a shot during her match against Britain on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jones said she "probably would have thrown the draw to go to the extra end."

Canada will play twice on Thursday, against Denmark followed by Switzerland. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Men's curling**

## Jacobs rink back on top of its game to beat Russia

After a surprisingly poor start to the tournament, Brad Jacobs' rink decided to watch video clips of its victories in the national Olympic trials to fire them up.

It seemed to work, as Canada silenced a boisterous pro-Russia crowd and beat the hosts 7-4 Wednesday in men's Olympic curling action.

The Canadian rink from Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., scored four in the fifth end and held off the Russians to improve to 2-2 in the tournament. The win was a welcome relief for the Canadians, who entered the match following tough back-to-back losses to Switzerland and Sweden.

Canada is tied for fifth with Denmark in the standings. Jacobs will look to move up the rankings when his foursome faces the Danes on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Alpine skiing. Maze, Gisin race to first-ever tie

Slovenia's Tina Maze and Switzerland's Dominique Gisin took different paths on an Olympic downhill filled with flats and turns, jumps and bumps, across slender trees' shadows, along snow that was icy at the top, soft at the bottom.

Any variable could have made the slightest difference over more than two and a half kilometres. Gisin, the eighth woman down the Rosa Khutor course, was good enough early and fantastic at the end. A half-hour later, starting 20th, Maze followed a tighter line, faster than Gisin most of the way, until a mistake shortly before the final leap slowed her.

Add it all up, and they were each other's equal Wednesday. Exactly, right down to the hundredth of a second. Gisin finished in one minute, 41.57 seconds. Maze finished in one minute, 41.57 seconds. A tie. And so two gold medals were awarded, the first time that's happened in 78 years of Olympic Alpine skiing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dominique Gisin, left, and Tina Maze both won gold in the women's downhill on Wednesday. CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Lugers seeking magic slide ride

**Relay.** Canada looks to break the ice with first ever Olympic luge medal

The Canadian luge team members know they can compete with the best in the world.

On Thursday, they'll have another chance to finally break through on the Olympic stage and make Canadian luge history in the process.

Calgary sliders Justin Snith, Sam Edney and Alex Gough will team with Tristan Walker of Cochrane, Alta., in the team relay event at the Sochi Games. It's the Olympic debut for the format, which has one woman, one man and one doubles team compete together.

The Canadians will try to build off the strong results from Gough in the women's singles and Snith and Walker in the men's doubles. They finished fourth in their respective events, coming very close to winning Canada's first-ever Olympic medal in luge.

"I'm just hoping to come out and slide like I did (Tuesday), " Gough said. "Sam, Tristan, Justin and I love racing the team relay. We've raced it together as a team for the last four years.

"Regardless of whatever happened in any of our races, we get to come out and race as a team and we love doing it."

In the relay, all competitors begin from the same starting point.

When the first sledder makes it down the course at Sanki Sliding Center, they must hit a touch pad past the finish line to release the gate and allow the next team member to start.

The country with the fastest cumulative time wins. If a team member fails to hit the finish pad, it will result in disqualification.

Canada won silver in the relay at the 2013 world championship and has a strong chance of reaching the podium here. Germany and Italy are also expected to be medal contenders.

Edney finished 11th in the men's singles competition last weekend. That race was won by Felix Loch, who will anchor the favoured German team that includes Natalie Geisenberger, Tobias Wendl and Tobias Arlt.

Germany won gold at the 2013 world championships and has four World Cup victories this season. Italy, Latvia, Austria, the U.S., and Canada all have good shots of reaching the podium.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Canadian team of Tristan Walker and Justin Snith slide down the track past spectators during the men's doubles luge on Wednesday in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia. NATACHA PISARENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Emotions and emoticons**

**"Maintain our tenacity, keep banging our heads an extra day and hopefully we'll have a smiley face."**

**Canadian luge coach Wolf Staudinger,** on Canada's perseverance to reach the podium.

**Doubles trouble**

## *Walker, Snith nudged off the podium*

Canada's Tristan Walker and Justin Snith were a whisker away from becoming the first Canadians to win an Olympic luge medal Wednesday night, coming just five-100ths of a second short of a podium appearance at the Sochi Games.

Their sixth career fourth-place finish hurt a little more because it was such a slim margin.

Walker, from Cochrane, Alta., and Snith, from Calgary, had two strong runs at the Sanki Sliding Centre and were sitting third overall when the final duo came down the track.

Tobias Wendl and Tobias Arlt of Germany posted the fastest time of the second run to move into top spot and knock the Canadians to fourth. Austrian brothers Andreas and Wolfgang Linger won silver and Latvia's Andris and Juris Sics took bronze.

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## Horoscopes

### ♈ Aries
**March 21 - April 20**
You need to be a bit more mysterious, especially on the work front. Keep both colleagues and rivals at arm's length and don't forget that knowledge is power.

### ♉ Taurus
**April 21 - May 21**
If you say one thing but do another, you leave yourself open to charges of hypocrisy. You don't need to cut corners or bend the truth. You have so much going for you that you will still come out ahead.

### ♊ Gemini
**May 22 - June 21**
As your ruler, Mercury, continues its retrograde phase, you need to be on your guard. It's likely that someone will try to cheat you in some way. But now that you know that, it won't be so easy.

### ♋ Cancer
**June 22 - July 23**
Your mind may be working fast and you may have come to conclusions that satisfy you but are you sure they're correct? Listen to your inner voice and act on what it tells you, even if you don't understand it.

### ♌ Leo
**July 24 - Aug. 23**
One of your secrets could be dangerous if others get to know about it. Make sure you don't say anything today that might give your opponents a clue what you've been up to.

### ♍ Virgo
**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**
It's important that you are honest about your feelings. If you keep them to yourself, negative emotions may build up to the point where an outburst of some sort is more likely than not.

### ♎ Libra
**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**
Be careful what you say over the next few days because certain people won't take kindly to you making light of things that they take seriously.

### ♏ Scorpio
**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**
There is still time to make your feelings known. But if you leave it too late in the day, the opportunity will slip by and it won't come again for quite a while. Don't worry that you might be rejected.

### ♐ Sagittarius
**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**
You'll get more done if you take a gentler approach to partnership matters. Put yourself in their shoes and imagine how you'd feel if someone talked to you the way you talk to them at times.

### ♑ Capricorn
**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**
You may want to be open but with communications planet Mercury now moving retrograde, you would be wise not to give too much away. Anyone asking personal questions is not to be trusted.

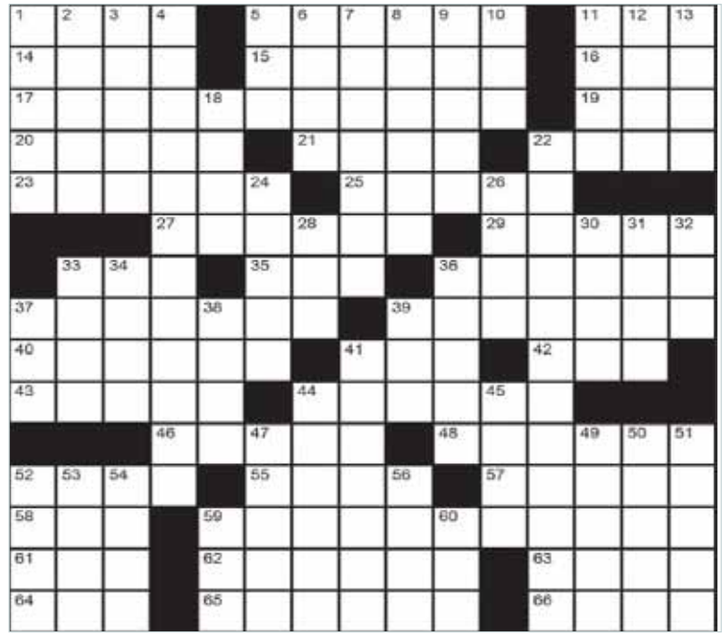
### ♒ Aquarius
**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**
If you need to make some extra money then you will have to go into partnership with someone who shares your ambitions. You will also need to have a contract that commits you both.

### ♓ Pisces
**Feb. 20 - March 20**
You may not be as ambitious as some but you have no end of dreams you would like to see come true. One dream has your attention now, but is it a realistic dream or is it a fantasy dream? SALLY BROMPTON

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

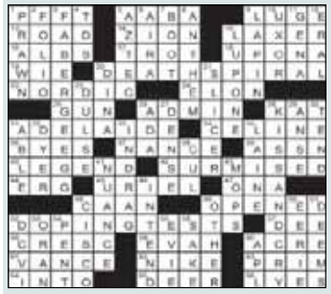
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**Across**
1. Very, in Versailles
5. Lightly blots: 2 wds.
11. Stir
14. Retro-style pop syllable
15. "Game of Thrones" actress Ms. Clarke
16. Cut back
17 "Roxy Roller" band from Vancouver: 2 wds.
19. Litigate
20. France's capital, colloquially
21. __ Brasi, "The Godfather" (1972) enforcer
22. Cob's stuff
23. "Man of Steel" (2013) director, Zack __
25. Lord's house
27. Swiped
29.Jabbed
33. 'Neat' suffix
35. Food container
36. U2 tune
37. Anastasia's family, House of __
39. Historic theatre in Russia
40. Sam Worthington movie
41. Oz musical, The __
42. Initials-sharers of Miranda's portrayer on "Sex and the City"
43. "__ __, with Love" (1967)
44. Roman orator
46. Man-made material
48. Wanting to throw up feeling
52. SOCHI 2014 - One of the Olympic symbol's five
55. Banff National Park animals
57. Trims
58. Fabric belt
59. Robin Thicke's actress wife: 2 wds.
61. Guys
62. Actor, Haley Joel __
63. Rihanna's "__ Boy"
64. Lumberjack's tool
65. Styles
66. River of Flanders

**Down**
1. Chef's li'l amounts
2. "Laugh-In" co-host Dan
3. Manicurist's board
4. SOCHI 2014 - Winter Olympics sport: 2 wds.
5. Billy Williams link
6. __ acetate (Banana oil)
7. Tar-like deposit found in Alberta's oil sands
8. BC's __ Valley
9. Mr. Quinn
10. Bit
11. Too
12. Glum
13. Airy
18. Old depilatory brand
22. SOCHI 2014 - Winter Olympics sport
24. Revolving mechanism
26. German-built car
28. Ms. Tyler
30. "Jeopardy": 1983 hit for The Greg __ Band
31. Greek Myth: God of love
32. Agnus __ (Mass prayer)
33. De __ (Again, in Latin)
34. "Misty" line: "Look at me / __ __ helpless as a kitten up a tree..."
36. Bakery quantity
37. Rodent
38. __ a soul
39. Pen brand
41. City in southern Manitoba's Pembina Valley
44. Structure support in architecture
45. Tabula __ (Clean slate)
47. Rent
49. Position, fancy-style
50. Lyric poem variety
51. Lou Grant's portrayer Ed
52. Tomato type
53. Wild goat
54. Ten - One = This
56. Rational
59. 1990s fad game disc
60. Liq. measures

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

**How to play**
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | | | | | | 6 | 9 |
| | | 6 | 5 | | | 7 | | |
| 4 | | | 9 | | 1 | | | |
| 9 | | | | 5 | | 4 | 8 | |
| | | | | 1 | | | | |
| | 6 | 2 | | 8 | | | | 1 |
| | | | 2 | | 7 | | | 5 |
| | | 9 | | | 5 | 3 | | |
| 5 | 8 | | | | | | 2 | 4 |

## Yesterday's Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 7 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 9 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 9 |
| 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 |

## Weather

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|
| MAX: 5° MIN: -3° | MAX: -2° MIN: -2° | MAX: 1° MIN: -6° |

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